

CHAPTER 2.9.1.

ACARAPISOSIS OF HONEY BEES

(Tracheal mite infestation of honey bees)

Article 2.9.1.1.

Standards for diagnostic tests are described in the *Manual*.

Article 2.9.1.2.

Country or zone with an official control programme for acarapisosis

To be considered as a country or zone with an official control programme for acarapisosis, a country or zone should meet the following requirements:

- 1) the *Veterinary Administration* has current knowledge of, and authority over, all beehives existing in the country or zone;
- 2) the control programme complies with the general provisions of Appendix 3.4.2., and is supervised by the *Veterinary Administration*;
- 3) acarapisosis is notifiable in the whole country, and any clinical cases suggestive of acarapisosis are subjected to field and laboratory investigations;
- 4) a sample of the bee population of each hive in the country or zone should be collected at least every year and subjected to a diagnostic test for acarapisosis; the sample size should be sufficient to provide at least 99% confidence of detecting the disease if it is present at a within hive prevalence rate exceeding 5%;
- 5) all infected hives should be either treated with appropriate acaricides or destroyed.

Article 2.9.1.3.

Country or zone free from acarapisosis

To be considered free from acarapisosis, a country or zone should fulfil the following requirements:

- 1) an official control programme for acarapisosis has existed in the country or zone for at least 3 years, and no *outbreak* of acarapisosis has been reported during this period;
- 2) then, annual surveys, with negative results, are carried out on a representative sample of all the beehives in the country or zone to provide a confidence level of at least 99% of detecting acarapisosis if at least 0.2% of the hives were infected at a within hive prevalence rate of at least 5%;
- 3) the importation of the *commodities* listed in Article 2.9.1.4. into the country or zone is carried out in conformity with the import conditions contained in the relevant Articles of the present Chapter.

Appendix XIII (contd)

Article 2.9.1.4.

Veterinary Administrations of countries shall consider whether there is a risk with regard to acarapisosis in accepting importation or transit through their territory, from other countries, of bees (queen honey bees, worker bees and drones).

Other *commodities* (honey bee semen, honey bee eggs, used equipments associated with beekeeping, honey, honey bee-collected pollen, propolis or royal jelly) should be considered as not having the potential to spread acarapisosis when they are the subject of *international trade*.

Article 2.9.1.5.

Veterinary Administrations of *importing countries* should require:

for queen honey bees, accompanying bees (worker bees) and drones with or without associated brood combs

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the bees:

- 1) come from a country or zone free from acarapisosis; or
- 2) come from:
 - a) a country or zone with an official control programme for acarapisosis;
 - b) hives which were subjected to sampling for acarapisosis in accordance with point 4 of Article 2.9.1.2. on two occasions with negative results, the first sample being collected at least 4 months and no more than 12 months, and the second sample no more than 7 days, prior to shipment.